

HEALTHWATCH SALFORD BOARD MEETING MINUTES

27th May 2025

Part 1 – Meeting held via Zoom

3:00pm – 4:00pm

Zoom Video Link

Attendees

Name	Designation
Phil Morgan (PM) – Chair	Board Member (Chair)
Sam Cook (SC)	Chief Officer
Elyse Peacock (EP) - Minutes	Knowledge & Support Officer
J Ahmed (JA)	Board Member (Vice Chair)
Nisa Khan (NK)	Board Member
Yen Siang-Tan (YS)	Board Member
Zac Wilde (ZW)	Board Member
Ian James (IJ)	Board Member

Apologies

Name	Designation

Part 1 (Meeting via Zoom)

Item 1 - Welcome and Introductions
PM welcomed everyone to the public Board Meeting.
Item 2 – Minutes and Action Log
PM asked if the minutes from the 25 th of March Board Meeting were accurate. The board agreed.
Action log updates: All actions were complete.
Item 3 – Declaration of Interest
None.
Item 4 – Questions from the public
None.



Achieved.
Valid Until
December 2024



Item 5 – Chairs Report

PM discussed some of the points from his Chairs Report.

- Northern Care Alliance - The proposed Partnership Board due on 28th January was cancelled, and the subsequent date of 10th March also cancelled. PM has had no reply to his email of 10th March about what would happen next. He has now written to the Chair of the Northern Care Alliance about what has become an unacceptable situation.
- Health and Adults Scrutiny - The Annual Review of scrutiny by the Panel triggered off a discussion about what our outputs and outcomes had been, rather than capturing what the Panel had received. This is an issue for all Salford scrutiny panels. There had been an intention to carry out a deep dive but (for various reasons) this had not happened. PM suggested that HW Salford share the Intelligence Report, and other HWS reports with all members of the Panel. There was a presentation on Adult Social Care and the current transformation project. Although meant more as an exercise in efficiency rather than costs saving it is partially prompted by rising (and unsustainable) costs, and partially by a realisation that work could be better managed. This includes bringing services back in house, including current contracts with GM Mental Health Foundation Trust and the Northern Care Alliance to allow for greater control of commissioned work. There was challenge about bringing work in house impacting on the VCSE sector, and the need for codesign and co-production.
- Healthwatch England - We have been made aware of the 50% cut in running costs for ICBs. Perversely, this runs against likely changes to unitary authorities, replacing existing commissioning arrangements with possible different and smaller unitaries. Fortunately, we are not affected by this. ICBs have been told to break even and not submit deficit budgets. For our own ICB breaking even remains a significant challenge. The much-awaited Dash Report into public safety, which includes Healthwatch, remains much awaited. When the Dash Review is published there will be a series of sessions planned for HW Chief Officers and Chairs to attend. The national Healthwatch England Conference will be held on-line on 18th November.

PM shared a list of the meetings he has attended.

No questions were raised.

Item 6 – Chief Officers Report and Staff Team Update

SC discussed some points from her Chief Officer report:

- Team staff appraisals have been completed. Objectives in line with the work plan are being agreed. We continue to meet in person on a monthly basis for our team meeting, with an informal catch up scheduled for the hour prior.



Achieved.
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- SC was asked to give a presentation on our approach to wellbeing at a Salford Social Value Alliance meeting.
- Health and Social Care in Salford - A review is currently taking place regarding the Health and Wellbeing Board and its subcommittees. Meetings are paused until later in the year. Given the recent government announcements relating to the NHS Reform, Salford ICPC are working on plans to see how the system in Salford wants to arrange itself for the future.
- HW in GM Network update - The network will meet again on 28th May to further discuss future plans and priorities. A GM report on Menopause is with the ICB for comment. Once completed, SC will share this. We are working with fellow GM HW on expanding Silent Voices across GM.
- SC updated the board on the Vape Debate report which will be published shortly and how the whole team has been working on this report together to ensure it is published in time with the new legislation.
- SC also updated the board on volunteering, Mark's Communication project, and how the sexual health project is being paused for the time being. The Men's Mental Health Commission are reviewing the next steps and what the future looks like for the commission.

PM thanked SC and the team for their work.

IJ asked where the reports would be published. SC explained how they would be published on our website, social media, and a press release will go out to the media list.

Item 7 – Representative's Feedback

Nothing additional was shared beyond what was included in the Chair's Report.

Item 8 - AOB

Extraordinary agenda item – special resolution proposal to remove the member's role at Healthwatch Salford.

The board discussed the role of members at Healthwatch Salford and the potential removal of this role which would be in line with how many other Healthwatch operate.

SC explained how this stemmed from the team reviewing volunteer roles, trustees and members and what that role looks like. It was discussed how the landscape that we are in has evolved since Healthwatch was set up and whether the role of members no longer fits for Healthwatch and the way in which we operate. SC shared that the trustees would be members and would have voting rights.

JA shared that he could see the logic in the removal of members, but that there is also value in the word members and equality in organisations like Healthwatch.



Achieved.
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NK agreed that, from a governance perspective, it would make sense for trustees to be the members as they are most up to date with the work that Healthwatch Salford is doing and would be in favour of this change.

PM shared his previous experience of membership within housing, and the problems that it can create. But that accountability can still remain from volunteer involvement, board meetings being open to the public and our AGM.

Voting:

In favour = 5

Against = 0

Abstention = 1

The removal of members has been passed.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 30th September – Zoom.



Achieved.
Valid Until
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